Second Member of Council.—

It may be that the delay may not be condonable. But, I do not think there are many instances of such sort.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda.—

I am sure there are many instances like these.

Second Member of Council.—

If so, please bring them to my notice.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA *alias* GUNDAPPA GOWDA (Hassan Taluk).—

Q.—6. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) When the appointments of Prosecuting Forest Range Officers were made?

(*b*) How many Prosecuting Range Officers are there?

(*c*) What is the number of cases disposed of by them and the number of forest cases pending disposal?

(*d*) What is the amount thus far spent over them by way of travelling allowance?

(*e*) What were the special reasons for appointing these officers?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENTS.—

A.—6. (*a*) From the 15th November 1928.

(*b*) One

(*c*) Up to the end of April 1930—

Disposed of	..	45
Pending	..	24

In addition to this, the Range Officer is entrusted with work relating to institution of appeals, revision applications and defence of suits against the Forest Department.

(*d*) Rs. 1,753-6-0.

(*e*) The conduct of cases of forest offences by the ordinary staff was not considered satisfactory. These cases require special study and attention. In the interests of revenue and for the proper presentation of cases this appointment was made.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda.—

How many Prosecuting Range Inspectors are there?

First Member of Council.—

For the present only one.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda.—

Will there not be delay if he has to go from one district to another?

First Member of Council.—

No delay has come to our notice.

Mr. H. B Gundappa Gowda.—

What is the amount spent for them by way of Travelling Allowance?

First Member of Council.—

Details are given in the answer.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda.—

Are there no Rangers for every district?

First Member of Council.—

There are.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda.—

Cannot they take up this work?

First Member of Council.—

Experience did not show that it was the best arrangement. It is proposed to try the present arrangement.

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda.—

Is it meant that there should be only one officer for prosecuting duty?

First Member of Council.—

The present arrangement is a tentative measure.

MR. RAMAIAH SETTY (Hosadurga Taluk).—

Q.—7. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) Whether it has come to their notice that restoration of the Major Tank and its feeder channel at Belagoor in Hosadurga Taluk remains undecided from a very long time?